THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No bus in a dilapidated condition is allowed to run. As for smoke emission, DTC has a regular system of checking smoke emission level. All buses including private buses that are associated with DTC are allowed to ply only when it has a vehicle fitness certificate issued by the concerned transport authority. As and when any private bus found by checking squad as not adhereing to the conditions of upkeep, the operators are asked to rectify the fault, failing wnich strict action is taken.

(b) Figures of profits or losses of the private buses on their operations are not maintained by DTC.

The losses incurred by the DTC during 1987-88 and 1988-89 are given below:—

(Rs. in crores)

	1987-88	1988-89
1. Working loss	45.96	50.94
2. Depreciation	11.96	12.71
3. Interest	20.96	32.30
4. Net loss	78.88	95.95

Implementation of Reservation Policy in Indian Tourism Development Corporation

1958. SHRI ANAND PRAKASH GAUTAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the strength of staff in the Indian Tourism Development Corporation: and

(b) what is the number and percentage of Scheduled Castes employees therein and whether the policy of Government on reservation is being fully implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (b) The requisite information as on 1-1-89 is as under:—

Total strength of staff in the ITDC	No. of S/C employees	Percentage of S/C employees
8860	2264	25.5%

The Govt. directives regarding reservation of vacancies for SC community are being followed in the ITDC.

Escalation in the prices of note-books

1959. SHRI RAM AWADESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether note-books prices have been escalating as a result of Government indifference as reported in the Hindu of the 23rd February 1989 and if so, what are the details thereof and the corrective steps taken or proposed to be taken in order to ensure that literacy programmes do not suffer;

(b) whether any quick renewable sources of raw material have been developed for paper making by ICAR/CSIR, Agriculture Universities and other specialised agencies so far; and

(c) whether Biotechnology and Genetic engineering techniques are possible /planned so far?